

Jan. 1 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 2000

of freedom, democracy, and opportunity been more ascendant in the world.

Nearly 55 years ago, President Franklin Roosevelt said that “we cannot live alone at peace . . . our own well-being is dependent on the well-being of other nations far away,” and, therefore, that we must be “citizens of the world, members of the human community.” I believe his words will prove even truer in the 21st century. With America fulfilling our ideals

and responsibilities, we can make this new century a time of unprecedented peace, freedom, and prosperity for our people and for all the citizens of the world.

Thank you. Happy New Year, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House.

Prayer at Christmas II: Holy Eucharist Services

January 2, 2000

The President. Gathered in the spirit of truth and hope, in unity and peace, at the beginning of the new year, the dawn of a new century, and at the turn of the third millennium, let us offer before God our prayers and thanksgivings.

We give You thanks, O God, for the goodness and love You have made known to us in creation. You fill the world with beauty. Open our eyes to see Your handiwork in all creation and in one another.

Audience members. We thank You and praise You, O God.

The First Lady. We give You thanks, O God, for Your church throughout the world, and for religious faith and freedom in this country. Grant that all who seek You by many names may be united in Your truth, live together in Your love, and reveal Your glory in the world.

Audience members. We thank You and praise You, O God.

The President. We give You thanks, O God, for our Nation; for the gifts of liberty, freedom, and peace; for the women and men who have made this country strong. Give us, like them, a zeal for justice and truth, and grant that we and all the people of this land may, by Your grace, be strengthened to maintain our liberties and righteousness and peace.

Audience members. We thank You and praise You, O God.

The First Lady. We pray also for the world, for the leaders of the nations and for those who strive and work for peace, that all swords may be turned into plowshares and none may hurt or destroy.

Audience members. We thank You and praise You, O God.

The President. We give You thanks, O God, for creating all humanity in Your image, for the wonderful diversity of Your children, of Your races and creeds, cultures and tongues. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us Your presence in those who differ most from us.

Audience members. We thank You and praise You, O God.

The First Lady. In offering You thanks, O God, we become aware of our failings and shortcomings. Time after time, we fail to strive for the vision and world You hold out to us. We do not honor one another. We abuse Your creation. We take for granted our resources, and we fail to recognize Your gracious hand in the harvests of land and sea. Grant us a respect for your whole world.

Audience members. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us, O God.

The President. Time after time, O God, we fail to follow Your ways and to live up to the hopes of our Founding Fathers and Mothers. We turn from the path of justice and peace to follow the way of hatred and anger. So move our hearts that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease, and that, in Your wisdom and love, we may live with our world family in true justice and peace.

Audience members. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us, O God.

The First Lady. Time after time, O God, we hoard the bounty of Your goodness. We store